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Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 14598 081740Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 /024 W
----------016341 090048Z /13
R 081616Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7028
INFO USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, IT
SUBJECT: NEUTRON-BOMB ARTICLE

1. FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE AUGUST 12 IN COMMUNIST DAILY L'UNITA, WHICH PUT N-BOMB DEVELOPMENT IN REASONABLE, BALANCED PERSPECTIVE, WAS BY DR. STEFANO SILVESTRI. SILVESTRI IS VICE-DIRECTOR ITALIAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. DURING SEVENTIES, HE HAS BEEN RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, ISS, LONDON; SPECIAL ASSISTANT ITALIAN FONMIN, VISITING LECTURER, JOHNS HOPKINS BOLOGNA CENTER. AUTHOR FOUR BOOKS, MANY ARTICLES ON NATO AND MEDITERRANEAN SECURITY QUESTIONS. CONTRIBUTES REGULARLY CORRIERE DELLA SERA AND WEEKLY SETTIMANALE. USUALLY REFERRED TO, BY BOTH LEFT AND RIGHT, AS THE LEADING ITALIAN ANALYST OF SECURITY QUESTIONS. APRTICIPATES FREQUENTLY USIS PROGRAMS.

2. SILVESTRI SAYS GENESIS OF ARTICLE WAS HIS IRRITATION AT FIRST ARTICLE IN L'UNITA' SERIES ON N-BOMB. MIFFED AT LOW AND POLEMICAL QUALITY OF THIS ARTICLE BY SEN. RANIERO LAVALLE, AN INDEPENDENT LEFTIST ELECTED ON THE PCI TICKET, SILVESTRI SENT UNSOLICITED LETTER TO L'UNITA'. HE WAS SURPRISED WHEN LETTER RAN UNCHANGED (INCLUDING JIBE AT PCI FOR UNPREPAREDNESS IN FOREIGN AFFARIS) AS FRONT-
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PAGE ARTICLE.

3. RAI-TV (CHANNEL ONE) SOUGHT TO CONFRONT SILVESTRI WITH OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN PRESS DEBATE ON N-BOMB. AFTER LAVALLE DEVELOPED COLD FEET, CAUSING POSTPONEMENT ORIGINAL PROGRAM, SILVESTRI AND PCI SENATOR CALAMANDREI APPEARED SEPT. 2. ALTHOUGH DEBATE WAS SUBSTANTIVELY UNEQUAL (CALAMANDREI'S

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RHETORIC RE "INHUMANITY"OF WEAPON VERSUS COOL FACTUAL
ADJUSTMENT OF PERSPECTIVE BY SILVESTRI) SILVESTRI'S LIGHT,
DIFFIDENT TELEVISION MANNER DISTRACTED FROM POWER OF
POINTS BEING MADE. BOTH MANNER AND HIS REFERENCES TO HORROR OF ALL
WEAPONS MADE SILVESTRI APPEAR EMBARRASSED AT HIS ROLE. HE
CAN BE EXPECTED, HOWEVER, TO SPEAK OUT ON EVERY OCCASION OFFERED
FOR REALISTIC ASSESSMENT OF ENTIRE SETTING OF N-BOMB
DEVELOPMENT. AT END, CALAMANDREI REDUCED TO COMPLAINT
THAT DEBATE HAS INSUFFICIENT EMOTION, SUGGESTING THOSE NOT
EXCITED ARE CALLOUS, BUT HE RETURNED TO FRAY WITH STRONG ANTI-
N-BOMB EDITORIAL IN SEPT. 7 L'UNITA'.
GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, NUCLEAR BOMBS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME14598
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770326-0342
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770986/aaaacuhs.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7164aa4a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1347436
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEUTRON-BOMB ARTICLE
TAGS: SOPN, PARM, IT, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7164aa4a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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